



Supporting people experiencing poverty, homelessness and disadvantage across Greater Manchester and Lancashire.



Thank you schools and colleges!

The support you give to Caritas Salford, your diocesan charity, really does transform the lives of families, children and individuals locally.

Every person we support is an individual with their own wishes and dreams for the future, and with your help we've not only been able to support them with immediate help at a time of crisis - from a secure roof over their head to a hot meal for their children - but also long-term too.



“By her very nature the Church is in solidarity with the poor, the excluded, the marginalised and all those considered outcast in society.”

Pope Leo XIV, Dilexi Te #111

Caritas means putting love into action - it's at the heart of our call to love God and to love our neighbour too.

By loving others as we take action to help at times of need, at times of urgent crisis, and at times of extreme hardship, we are truly living the teachings of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Walking together alongside local people experiencing poverty, homelessness and discrimination we find that:

“In loving others, we find our purpose.”

Saint Bernadette

“My life has changed beyond recognition since coming...without the support I would not have been housed, fed or going to university. Your support gave me hope and confidence in me and I give thanks for all the help and advice to me, my husband and my boys.”

Person accessing our services

Because everyone deserves hope, a safe home, and a future built on dignity.

Find out more about the people you've helped us support, and see some special thank you video messages too:

www.caritassalford.org.uk/ThankYou

People not statistics

In our diocese:



More than **333,000** children are living in poverty right now.



That's more than one in three children who are going to school with empty tummies.



Almost **9,000** are also living in temporary accommodation.



And the number of people rough sleeping has risen too, with **481** individuals living on the streets.

These aren't just terrible statistics.

They're real people. Our neighbours, our friends, people in our community.

Anyone can find themselves in crisis at any time in their life, and thanks to you we're able to help thousands of local people at a time they need it most.

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How your fundraising helps

By fundraising in your school or local community, or making a donation at www.caritassalford.org.uk/donate you are making a real, tangible difference.

For example:



£8 donated could pay for toiletries for someone, such as toothbrush and paste, shower gel, deodorant, period products or shaving items.



£45 could pay for a three-course meal for 15 people at one of our day centres.



£157 could provide a family experiencing crisis such as chronic illness, bereavement or fear of eviction, with a weekly shop of food and other essentials.



To find out more about our work and how you can help, visit: www.caritassalford.org.uk/fundraise

Did you know?

Some of our services include providing safe, secure accommodation for people experiencing or at risk of becoming homeless?

Many never dreamed they'd be in this situation and come to us during acute crisis for them and their family.

Katie* was living a chaotic life without any stability for her and her son.

She moved to our young parent accommodation and lived with us for 14 months.

During this time she learned ways to improve her parenting skills and built up her confidence to live independently.

She joined all the service's activities and her son particularly enjoyed story-time sessions each evening.

When she was ready to move out, our team supported her with grant applications for furniture and other elements involved in moving into your own tenancy.

She has come back to visit and to share with staff how things are in her new home.

The family has settled in and are getting on well with neighbours. They're part of the local community, with her son settled into nursery too.

*Name has been changed



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Why not hold a sponsored Big Sleep Out in your school this term?



It simply cannot be right that, tonight, almost 500 people will sleep rough across the Diocese of Salford?

Or that almost 9,000 children and young people will wake up in a bed that is only a temporary place for them to call home.

Will you help us to raise awareness of homelessness? And at the same time, help Caritas to tackle it by asking people to sponsor you to sleep somewhere other than your own bed?

It can be in a classroom, a sports hall, or even in the school yard.

Find out more about arranging a Big Sleep Out at your school by visiting www.caritassalford.org.uk/HoldABigSleepOut or contacting our team by email fundraising@caritassalford.org.uk

Alternatively, choose a different Every Step challenge to push you out of your comfort zone - be it a mental or physical challenge. From running to sponsored walks, knit-a-thons to bake-offs, there's something for everyone. Anything goes!

Visit www.caritassalford.org.uk/EveryStep for more information or contact fundraising@caritassalford.org.uk and we'd be happy to chat more about the steps you might take!



Did you know...?

We have a range of free resources, slides, videos, prayers, and other information available on our website?

Visit www.caritassalford.org.uk to download them or find out more.



Supporting James*

James came to one of our homeless day centres because he was rough sleeping.

He was employed and sleeping on the streets near his work.

Our team helped him with urgent crisis support, including food, a hot shower, clean clothing and a secure place to stay. They then worked alongside him to enable a referral to an accommodation where he lived for eight months.

He has now moved into his own house. He said: "You saved my life. The day you referred me to the accommodation, they rang that afternoon and took me in...that's down to your work. I don't know what would have happened if I hadn't come here, it was the lowest time of my life. But you saved me and I can't thank you enough".

James has now enquired about how to support Caritas and is hoping that, with his experience and skills in the field of customer service, he will be able to join our volunteering team soon.

*Name has been changed



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Supporting Alice* and her family

Alice, who is married with four children, came to our community food pantry and allotment for support after her dad died very suddenly.

He had two young children from his second marriage, and when she was informed the children were about to go into care, she travelled and brought them to live with her.

She had no financial support in place and could not claim benefits for them.

They had little in the way of belongings and she used her savings to urgently provide clothing, footwear and school uniforms.

Our team supported her to access our Caritas Bishop's Fund to buy beds and other essentials to support the family with their financial crisis.

The family are doing really well and have fed back that they were extremely grateful for the support of our charity at an incredibly difficult time when they needed it the most.

*Name has been changed



New campaigning toolkits for schools

Look out for new campaigning toolkits for primary and secondary schools, launching in the autumn term. The toolkits will guide Caritas ambassadors and other groups through the process of discerning the change they want to see before planning some campaigning activities and taking action, all rooted in Catholic Social Teaching.

Updates will be live on the *In Your School* section of our website here when available:

www.caritassalford.org.uk/InYourSchool



Free termly webinar for school staff

Our next termly webinar for school staff is with Shared Health Foundation on the topic of homelessness and temporary accommodation. This session will help equip you to support families experiencing homelessness.

To find out more, or if there are any topics you'd like to see covered on future webinars, please contact Annabeth Taylor by emailing a.taylor@caritassalford.org.uk.



Free newsletter

Register for our free e-newsletter now to keep up to date with new resources, activities, webinars and other information to support your school activities: www.caritassalford.org.uk/newsletter



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Caritas ambassadors

If you have Caritas ambassadors in your school we always love to hear what you've been up to.

Why not get in touch with any news or to fill us in on any activities you're undertaking? We'd also love to hear from you if you'd be happy to work with us on news stories or blogs from your ambassadors that we could share on our communication channels. Please email k.ansley@caritassalford.org.uk

If you don't have ambassadors but would be interested in finding out more, take a look at our website for further details: www.caritassalford.org.uk/ambassadors



Accessibility, disability and inclusion sessions for schools

We offer free 90 minute sessions in schools, challenging thinking about disability and accessibility, looking at the differences between equality and equity, and how we can consider the needs of others - all grounded in the principles of Catholic Social Teaching. Find out more or book a place by emailing Minna at m.moffatt-feldman@caritassalford.org.uk



Can the Caritas school service help you further?

Our school service improves access to learning by working directly with pupils, their families and their school community.

Our team has decades of experience working in social care, counselling and art therapy and also understands how to support schools through crisis and safeguarding situations.

Whether through one-to-one interventions or group work with children, young people, families or staff, we work alongside your school team to create bespoke solutions to ensure the best outcomes for everyone involved.

Contact Helen Chambers for more information: h.chambers@caritassalford.org.uk



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All-round support, all year round

The support you enable with your kindness and generosity helps local people in so many ways.

From crisis help to health and wellbeing support, we assist as children young people, families and individuals build new skills, increase their confidence, and gain new, important social connections too.

"I came in because I needed to speak to the rough sleepers team, I never intended on staying and doing gardening! It really helped quiet the noise in my head and if you ever need a hand doing more, I'll definitely be up for it."



"I think it's absolutely amazing for people to be able to access such a range of fresh produce for such a low price. It's also really great that you offer more ways to support people than just the food."



"My life has changed beyond recognition since coming... without the support I would not have been housed, fed or going to university. Your support gave me hope and confidence in me and I give thanks for all the help and advice to me, my husband and my boys."



"I didn't think I would be able to have the confidence to cook again for other people, but now I do."

"Thank you so much for getting me a doctor. I think I would have carried on like this without getting looked at. I didn't think doctors would see homeless people."

Thank you again for all of your support.
We couldn't help so many local people to transform their lives with dignity without you.

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